

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH November 10, 2009

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee held a meeting on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the Exeter-West Greenwich Jr. – Sr. High School Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Valerie Zuercher; Mark Rafanelli; Robert Bollengier; and Mary Walsh. Teri Cicero, Vice Chairperson and Gregory Coutcher, Clerk were absent. Superintendent Thomas J. Geismar and Director of Special Services Carmella Farrar were present. Director of Administration Robert V. Ross was absent.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Member Rafanelli read the District Mission Statement.

Open Forum – Chair DeSack welcomed new Student Member Raymond Moore who will represent students as a member of the School Board this academic year.

Presentation – 2009 NECAP Science Results – On behalf of the Sr. High Science Department, Department Chair/teacher Matt Savoie gave a PowerPoint presentation that focused on the high school 2009 NECAP results and how the results correlate with the rest of the state.

The presentation included a breakdown of the 2009 data and compared 2008 to 2009 scores. Mr. Savoie talked about the ways his department will work to address concerns and explained how data was analyzed in an effort to account for scores. He said that students' PLAN scores and class ranks were compared to NECAP scores however, there does not seem to be any apparent correlation. In fact, statewide there does not seem to be any correlation. It does not seem to matter what course a student takes and how well a student does on the NECAP test. One of the questions being asked is how motivated are students to take the NECAP assessment? It would seem that students are not reading this test as they would a regular classroom assessment because the results do not impact them directly. Therefore, motivational techniques and incentives for students are being looked at. Chair DeSack pointed out that it is necessary to make sure students understand why it is important that they take the NECAP test seriously. Mr. Savoie answered members' clarifying questions and they discussed the test results, curriculum, GLEs, "teaching to the test", and the worthiness of the NECAP test. Superintendent Geismar listed four areas that will be looked at going forward to prepare for the NECAP assessment. (1) If the GLEs are embedded into the curriculum; (2) Test sensitivity/style; (3) How we motivate students; (4) A focused review of some sort in the junior year. Chair DeSack thanked Mr. Savoie and Science Department teachers for their presentation, the job that they are doing, and for their efforts in trying to make sense of the data.

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA- Superintendent Geismar gave an overview of the Consent Agenda.

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH November 10, 2009

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Page 2

Member Bollengier made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Member Zuercher seconded the motion. Voted 5 – 0 in favor.

The following items were approved:

A. Approval of Minutes - Regular Minutes of October 27, 2009

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments

**a. Dwayne LaBrie as Sr. High School Head Wrestling Coach,
Stipend \$1,422.16; effective for the 2009-2010 season**

2. Leaves of Absence

3. Resignations – (As Recommended by the Superintendent, with Regret)

a. Letter of Resignation from Craig Main from his position as Jr. High School Track Coach, effective November 5, 2009

b. Letter of Resignation from Crystal Couture from her position as Head Gymnastic Coach, effective August 31, 2009

c. Letter of Resignation from Colleen Williams from her position as

Jr. High School Cheerleading Coach, effective November 6, 2009

4. Grievances

5. Non-Renewals

6. Recalls

7. Sabbaticals

C. Bills – In the amount of \$ 172,051.64

D. Home School Approvals

1. CURRY – Trenton, Clarke

End Consent Agenda

Correspondence – (1) October 20, 2009 Memo and Attachment to RI School Committees from Westerly Town Clerk Regarding Resolution of Support; (2) North Smithfield School Committee Resolution passed October 20, 2009; (3) Letter and Invitation from Commissioner Gist Regarding a Community Forum to discuss Rhode Island's Education Agenda and Race to the Top Application

Monthly Subcommittee Report(s) – Policy Subcommittee – Member Bollengier reported that the policy subcommittee will meet next week. He requested to pull Policy #6237 from tonight's agenda and to table it until the policy subcommittee can meet to discuss the policy.

Town Finance/Charter Review Subcommittee – Member Rafanelli reported on the Town Finance/Charter Review, (TFCR) meeting that took place on October 22, 2009. He

told the School Committee that the next TFCR meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2009. The TFCR committee will continue to work toward looking at ways to fund the school district, will explore options and opportunities for funding, and will bring as many ideas as it can back to the School Committee.

model

NEW BUSINESS – Draft 2010-2011 Budget Development Timeline – Chair DeSack asked that the draft timeline be modified to consolidate budget meeting dates to no more than two per week. In addition, add only one budget meeting to a week that includes a School Committee meeting and be mindful of weeks containing a holiday. She suggested using last year's schedule as a model for creating this year's schedule. This item will continue to the next regular meeting agenda.

Policies-Review and Adoption - #6237: Per Diem Substitute Teachers - Amendment

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – This item will continue to a future agenda.

H1N1 Update - Superintendent Geismar gave a brief overview of the H1N1 clinic that took place at Metcalf School recently and the district's vaccination clinic schedule. He reported that last week's

absenteeism was high. However, absenteeism is coming down and has moderated from where it was last week.

Capital Project Update – Superintendent Geismar updated members on the capital project work that continues throughout the district and answered members' clarifying questions.

Reports/Comments

Important Dates and Meetings – Friday, November 13, 2009-Jr. High H1N1 Vaccine Clinic; Wednesday, November 18, 2009-Lineham H1N1 Vaccine Clinic;

Thursday, November 19, 2009-Town Finance/Charter Review Committee Meeting; Thursday, November 19, 2009-Evening Parent Conferences-J/SHS; Friday, November 20, 2009-Parent Conferences-No School Students; Tuesday, November 24, 2009-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, December 8, 2009-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, December 8, 2009-Sr. High H1N1 Vaccine Clinic; Friday, December 10, 2009-Wawaloam H1N1 Vaccine Clinic

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RIGL 42-46-4 and RIGL 42-46-5 – None

Adjournment - Member Zuercher moved to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. Member Bollengier seconded the motion. Voted 5 – 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned 8:07 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO
CLERK